

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05233 111647Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2062

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E O 11652C NA

TAGS: PFOR, GE, US

SUBJ: AMERICAN PARTICIPANT IN ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF POLITICAL SONGS

1. DURING THE COURSE OF THE PAST WEEK, THE ANNUAL "FESTIVAL OF POLITICAL SONGS" HAS BEEN HELD IN THE CONGRESS HALL ON ALEXANDERPLATZ IN EAST BERLIN.

2. WHILE SUBSTANTIALLY OVERSHADOWED BY MEDIA COVERAGE OF GDR OLYMPIC SUCCESSES, THE FESTIVAL NEVERTHELESS HAS RECEIVED A LOT OF PUBLICITY AND TV TIME. SPECIAL ATTENTION HAS BEEN TO PERFORMERS FROM PORTUGAL, SPAIN, CHILE AND A NUMBER OF LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. THIRTY COUNTRIES ARE STATED TO BE REPRESENTED.

3. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND OF FEBRUARY 11, 1976, FEATURES AN AMERICAN INDIAN SINGER NAMED "WYOMING", WHO IS PICTURED SITTING AT THE PIANO SINGING HIS OWN COMPOSITION, "FREEDOM". HE IS DESCRIBED BY ND AS "A SPOKESMAN OF THE INDIAN FREEDOM MOVEMENT" WHO WAS "SENTENCED TO MANY YEARS IN JAIL LAST AUGUST BY AMERICAN RACIST JUSTICE FOR HIS POLITICAL OPINION AND ACTION." COMMENT: HOW HE ESCAPED "RACIST JUSTICE" AND GOT TO EAST BERLIN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SONG FESTIVAL, IS NOT EXPLAINED.GROVE

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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